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FreeRealms™

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LEWIS • SOMMARIVA • MARTINEZ

THIS KIND OF REMINDS ME OF FOURTH GRADE.
THERE WAS A GANG OF OLDER KIDS THAT USED TO HANG OUT ON THE CORNER BY MY HOUSE.
THEY WERE BIG AND UGLY, AND MOST OF THEM SMELLED LIKE THEY BATHED IN A SEWER.
THEY USED TO MAKE US PAY A TOLL TO USE THE SIDEWALK. THEY SAID THE MONEY WENT TO HELP NEEDY KIDS.
I'M PRETTY SURE THAT WASN'T TRUE.
ONE DAY I DECIDED I WASN'T GOING TO PAY THEM ANYMORE. THEY WERE GOING TO HAVE TO BEAT ME UP.
BUT I LEARNED SOMETHING FROM THAT.
SOMETIMES IT'S BETTER TO BE FAST THAN TO BE STRONG.
I ALSO LEARNED SOMETHING ELSE.
PEOPLE WHO CAN'T CONTROL THEIR EMOTIONS WILL DO REALLY STUPID THINGS.

I MEAN, WHO IN THEIR RIGHT MIND WOULD FOLLOW ME OFF THE EDGE OF A CLIFF?
I ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY FOOTBALL, BUT MY MOM SAID IT WAS TOO DANGEROUS.
SO SHE SIGNED ME UP FOR GYMNASTICS.
I TOLD HER THE KIDS AT SCHOOL WERE GOING TO MAKE FUN OF ME. SHE DIDN'T CARE.
I THREATENED TO RUN AWAY, BUT SHE KNEW I WAS BLUFFING.
I TOLD HER THAT I WAS THE ONLY BOY IN THE CLASS.
HER RESPONSE? ONE DAY I WOULD LIKE THAT.

YOU KNOW WHAT? SHE WAS RIGHT.
I'M ACTUALLY THANKFUL THAT MY MOM MADE ME TAKE GYMNASTICS, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IT'S COME IN HANDY MORE THAN ONCE.
LIKE A BIRD IN A CAGE
J.S. Lewis ~ writer
Jon Sommariva ~ penciller
Allen Martinez ~ inker
Bill Crabtree ~ colorist
Wes Abbott ~ letterer
Michael McCalister ~ assistant editor
Scott Peterson ~ editor
KERPLUNK

HAVEN'T YOU EVER HEARD THE PHRASE *HONOR AMONG THIEVES?*
I'M NOT A THIEF.
BESIDES, EVEN IF I WERE, I WOULDN'T WEAR ONE OF THOSE RIDICULOUS MASKS. WHO DESIGNED THEM, YOUR GYM TEACHER?
ARE... ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME?
I WOULD SAY NO, BUT I'D BE LYING.
I MEAN, SERIOUSLY. HAVE YOU LOOKED AT YOURSELF IN THE MIRROR LATELY?
MUGGENSTOMP IS GOING TO SMASH YOU TO BITS!
WAIT A MINUTE... YOUR NAME IS *MUGGENSTOMP*? SERIOUSLY?
IS THAT A FAMILY NAME, OR DID YOU COME UP WITH THAT ONE ON YOUR OWN? YOU KNOW, FOR STREET CRED WITH YOUR POSSE?
YOU TALK TOO MUCH.
IF YOU THINK *I* TALK A LOT, YOU SHOULD HEAR DANE. HE'LL DRIVE YOU CRAZY.
WHO IS THAT? YOUR BOYFRIEND?

NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS FIND THAT BOX AND GET TO THE WARPSTONE BEFORE THOSE NITWITS FIND THEIR WAY BACK TO THE CAVE...
...ALTHOUGH IF I FREE DARKTHORNE'S SOLDIERS FIRST, SHE MIGHT PUT A GOOD WORD IN FOR ME WITH HER SISTER.
WELL, WELL, WELL.. IF IT ISN'T TWEEDLEDEE AND TWEEDLEDUM. WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE?
DARKTHORNE SENT US ON A MISSION TO RECRUIT MORE CHUGAWUGS TO COME TO BRIARWOOD.
I THINK YOU TWO JUST MISSED ME.
IN THE NAME OF DARKTHORNE, I COMMAND YOU TO RELEASE US.
WHAT'S THE MAGIC WORD?
GRRRRRRRR.
I'M PRETTY SURE THAT ISN'T IT, BUT I TELL YOU WHAT. IF YOU PROMISE TO HELP ME OUT, I'LL CUT YOU FREE.
WE DON'T MAKE DEALS.
FINE BY ME. SEE YA!

COME ON, SNORGIE. I DON'T WANT TO BE STUCK HERE FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
I TOLD YOU TO STOP CALLING ME THAT.
SORRY.
WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO DO?
WATCH MY BACK WHILE I LOOK FOR SOMETHING IN THE CAVE. IF ANYTHING JUMPS OUT AT ME, YOU SMASH IT.
THAT'S IT?
YEP. DO WE HAVE A DEAL?
DEAL.
NOW. THAT WASN'T SO HARD, WAS IT?
SNAP
CLICK
LET'S GO. I'M ON A SCHEDULE.

DO YOU KNOW HOW EMBARRASSING THIS IS?
WHY? BECAUSE YOU CAN'T KEEP UP WITH ME, OR BECAUSE I'M THE ONE WHO FREED YOU?
BOTH.
HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT?
DANE IS NOT MY BOYFRIEND!!!
THAT'S THE MOST DISGUSTING THING ANYONE HAS EVER SAID TO ME!

SOUNDS LIKE I STRUCK A NERVE.
NO!
YOU!
DIDN'T!
TRUST ME. I CAN TELL.
OOOOMPH!
YOU'RE DEFINITELY IN LOVE.

MAYA!
AH, YOU MUST BE THE BOYFRIEND...
...COME TO RESCUE YOUR ONE TRUE LOVE.
MY... MY TRUE LOVE?
GOOD ONE! BUT IF YOU'RE TRYING TO DISTRACT ME WITH YOUR BANTER, IT ISN'T GOING TO WORK.
NOW, YOUR BREATH ON THE OTHER HAND? THAT MIGHT BE A PROBLEM.
WHAT DID YOU HAVE FOR BREAKFAST? ROTTING ONIONS COVERED IN MILDEW? I CAN SMELL IT ALL THE WAY OVER HERE!
I'M GOING TO BREAK EVERY BONE IN YOUR BODY.

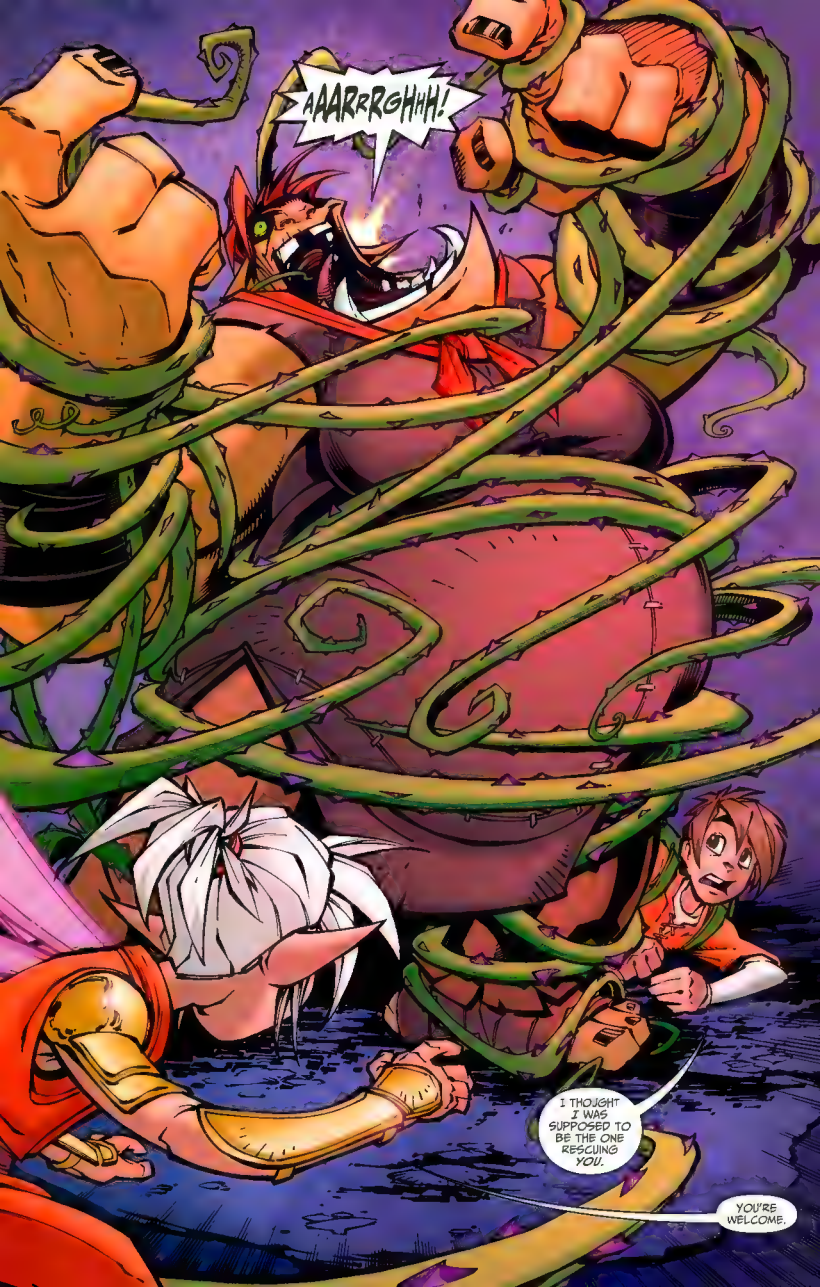
IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO STAND STILL LONG ENOUGH FOR YOU TO SIT ON ME, YOU'RE CRAZIER THAN YOU LOOK.
AND FROM WHERE I'M STANDING, YOU LOOK PRETTY DARN CRAZY.
OH.
MY.
GOSH.
WHI
WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU SHAVED YOUR LEGS?

COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU'D PROBABLY NEED AN AXE TO CUT THROUGH THAT HAIR.
UNFORTUNATELY, ALL I BROUGHT WITH ME IS THIS HAMMER.
YOWWWLLL!
DO YOU EVER STOP TALKING?
I TRIED ONCE, BUT IT GOT BORING. BESIDES, I WOULDN'T WANT TO DEPRIVE THE WORLD OF MY SNAPPY WITTICISMS.

BY THE WAY, DID ANY OF YOU HEAR THAT WE JUST RELEASED A LINE OF ACTION FIGURES BASED ON YOURS TRULY?
I'LL BE SURE TO HAVE MY PEOPLE SEND YOU A FEW. I'LL EVEN THROW IN A COUPLE AUTOGRAPHED PICTURES AS LONG AS YOU PROMISE NOT TO SELL THEM ON THE INTERNET.
REALLY? GEE, THANKS!
OH, BROTHER.
HOW CAN THE TWO OF YOU HELP THIS IMBECILE?
CRACK
YOU'RE AN EMBARRASSMENT TO CHUGANUGS EVERYWHERE.
TELL ME ABOUT IT.
BLAM
IF YOU WANTED AN AUTOGRAPH TOO, ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS ASK.
I NO MORE WANT YOU TO SIGN SOMETHING THAN I WANT MY TONSILS RIPPED OUT OF MY THROAT WITH A PAIR OF RUSTY TONGS.
ALL I WANT YOU TO DO IS SHUT YOUR MOUTH!

GROAN
FINE, I'LL THROW IN AN ACTION FIGURE IF THAT WILL MAKE YOU HAPPY--BUT YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PAY FOR THE SHIPPING.
I'D OFFER TO SEND YOU A T-SHIRT, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE WE DON'T HAVE YOUR SIZE.
I MEAN, I'M NOT EVEN SURE YOU'D BE ABLE TO FIT INTO A CIRCUS TENT.
I'M GOING TO MAKE THIS SLOW AND PAINFUL.
SHHHH

YOU DRIVE A HARD BARGAIN, SO I'LL PICK UP THE SHIPPING COSTS, BUT JUST THIS ONCE, OKAY?
OH, AND MY BUSINESS PARTNER IS GOING TO THROW IN A SPECIAL BONUS FOR YOU. DO YOU LIKE PLANTS?
HUH?
EAT VINES, FREAK!


AAARRRGHHH!
I THOUGHT I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THE ONE RESCUING YOU.
YOU'RE WELCOME.

ARE YOU OKAY?
YEAH, I'M FINE.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE--
I SAID, I'M FINE.

WHAT ABOUT THESE TWO?
I FIGURE IF WE WAKE THEM UP, THEY COULD HELP US FIND THE BOX...OR WE CAN LET THEM SLEEP. EITHER WAY, I'M GOOD.
THEY'LL PROBABLY JUST GET IN OUR WAY...BUT WE BETTER WAKE THEM UP.

BY THE WAY, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHER THUGAWUGS?
THEY DECIDED TO GO FOR A SWIM.

HEY...WHAT HAPPENED?
IT WAS THE STRANGEST THING. WE WERE IN THE MIDDLE OF A FIGHT AND YOU TWO DECIDED TO TAKE A NAP. YOU DON'T HAVE NARCOLEPSY, DO YOU?
NARCO WHAT?

NEVER MIND.
WE JUST NEED TO WAKE UP SLEEPING BEAUTY HERE. DO YOU THINK THAT YOU COULD HANDLE THAT?
SNORGIE.... IT'S TIME TO WAKE UP FROM YOUR NAPPY-POO.
ISN'T THAT CUTE?
ADORABLE.
SNORGIE WON'T WAKE UP.
TELL YOU WHAT. HE LOOKS NICE AND COMFY. WHY DON'T WE LET HIM SLEEP FOR A WHILE? WE'LL WAKE HIM UP AFTER WE FIND WHAT WE CAME HERE FOR.
REALLY? YOU WOULD DO THAT FOR SNORGIE?
OF COURSE I WOULD.

NOW DON'T FORGET, WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ABOUT THE SIZE OF A SHOEBOX WITH A KEYHOLE IN THE FRONT. TRY NOT TO TOUCH ANYTHING ELSE, OKAY?
GORG WON'T TOUCH ANYTHING WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION, BOSS.
GOOD BOY.
WE LOOK IN HERE?
SURE THING, GORG. BUT I DON'T SEE A BOX. HOW ABOUT YOU?
NOPE.
DON'T YOU THINK WE COULD COVER MORE GROUND IF WE SPLIT UP?
PROBABLY, BUT I BET THIS PLACE IS FILLED WITH BOOBY TRAPS. WE NEED TO STICK TOGETHER IN CASE ONE OF US GETS CAUGHT.
BESIDES, IT'S KIND OF NICE TO HAVE OLD GORG HERE IN CASE WE RUN INTO ANY SURPRISES.
THANKS, BOSS.

LOOK. A DOOR.
GOOD WORK, GORG.
YEAH, HE'S A REGULAR SHERLOCK HOLMES.
I WAS THINKING MORE ALONG THE LINES OF SCOOBY-DOO, BUT SURE.
CLICK
CREEEEK
THIS PLACE IS DISGUSTING.
I DON'T KNOW. WITH A LITTLE TLC, THIS WOULDN'T MAKE A BAD SUMMER HOME. THERE ISN'T A LOT OF TRAFFIC, IT'S NICE AND COOL, AND IT'S CLOSE TO WATER.
ARE YOU SERIOUS? THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SOAP IN THE WORLD TO CLEAN THIS PLACE UP.

FreeRealms™

CLAIM YOUR REWARD!

NEW ACCOUNTS

1. GO TO THE ***FREE REALMS*** WEBSITE - HTTP://WWW.FREEREALMS.COM
2. ENTER THE CODE INTO THE TEXT FIELD IN THE "REDEEM-A-CODE" BOX ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE HOME PAGE
3. CLICK THE GREEN "REDEEM" BUTTON
4. THESE CODES WORK WITH NEW AND EXISTING ACCOUNTS, SO IF YOU'RE A NEW PLAYER YOU'LL HAVE TO CREATE AN ACCOUNT AT THIS POINT IF YOU WANT TO CLAIM THE CODE; ON THE ***FREE REALMS*** LOG IN PAGE, CLICK THE "FIRST TIME HERE? START PLAYING FOR FREE!" HYPERLINK.
5. COMPLETE THE NEW ACCOUNT REGISTRATION
6. THE "CONGRATULATIONS!" SCREEN WILL APPEAR, ACKNOWLEDGING YOUR SUCCESSFUL CODE REDEMPTION AND YOUR RECEIPT OF THE IN-GAME ITEM

ENTER THIS CODE

7. CLICK "CONTINUE"
8. YOU'RE IN! FIRST CLICK ON THE SHOPPING CART ICON. NOW CLICK THE SC ICON IN THE POP UP MENU!
9. SELECT THE "CLAIM ITEMS" BUTTON TO LOAD THE ITEM CLAIM SCREEN
10. YOU'LL SEE THE *SPELUNKER'S SHARD* ITEM IN YOUR PENDING CLAIMS. SELECT IT BY RUNNING THE CURSOR OVER IT AND LEFT-CLICKING, THEN CLICKING ON THE GREEN "CLAIM" BUTTON ON THE RIGHT!
11. ENJOY YOUR *SPELUNKER'S SHARD*

EXISTING ACCOUNTS

1. LOG IN AND LAUNCH ***FREE REALMS*** USING THE ACCOUNT AND CHARACTER WHO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THE REWARD.
2. CLICK ON THE SHOPPING CART ICON IN THE GAME DOCK AND SELECT THE "SC" FROM THE POP UP MENU THAT APPEARS ABOVE THE SHOPPING CART.
3. ENTER THE CODE INTO THE TEXT FIELD IN THE "REDEEM-A-CODE" BOX ON THE TOP OF THE WINDOW
4. YOU'LL SEE THE *SPELUNKER'S SHARD* ITEM IN YOUR PENDING CLAIMS. SELECT IT BY RUNNING THE CURSOR OVER IT AND LEFT-CLICKING, THEN CLICKING ON THE GREEN "CLAIM" BUTTON ON THE RIGHT!
5. ENJOY YOUR *SPELUNKER'S SHARD*

SPELUNKER'S SHARD

THE STORM FRONT

WildStorm kicks off the summer with new titles for June!

TOM STRONG AND THE ROBOTS OF DOOM #1 lands in stores on the first week with a tale that's been waiting to be told since their first cameo in TOM STRONG #1. Alan Moore has given Peter Hogan the green light to continue the exciting adventures of ABC's greatest science hero and there's no artist I'd like to see drawing his future exploits more than Chris Sprouse.

Chris has been hard at work, quietly penciling this six-issue series for some time now—except for a short break to draw BATMAN: THE RETURN OF BRUCE WAYNE #1. We couldn't be more excited to finally unleash this new series after months and months of secrecy, so you can be assured every issue will reach stores and look great at the same time.

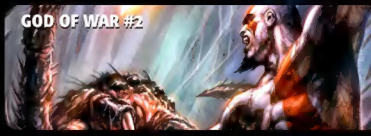
Tesla Strong's wedding is bringing all of their family and friends together—but that also includes Tom's son, Albrecht, who's bringing some party favors of his own, including a world turned upside down. All of this, plus a special variant cover by J.H. Williams III of PROMETHEA and DETECTIVE COMICS/Batwoman fame.

FRINGE: TALES FROM THE FRINGE #1 follows the familiar characters you know and love in the lead story with a second tale that plays with the themes and mysteries fans of the show will love. Joining the writers of the hit show are WildStorm favorites like original series artist Tom Mandrake, plus Federico Dallocchio, Shawn Moll, David Lapham, Darick Robertson, the Eisner Award-nominated Fiona Staples and more. And they're all wrapped up in covers by Diego (DANTE'S INFERNO) Latorre.

Check back here next month for an inter-company crossover you won't believe until you see it. Plus, the return of another WildStorm favorite title!

JIM LEE

OUT THIS MONTH!



COLLECTED EDITIONS:
EX MACHINA: THE DELUXE EDITION BOOK 3
EX MACHINA: RING OUT THE OLD TPB 9
FREE REALMS BOOK 1
ROBOTECH: PRELUDE TO THE SHADOW CHRONICLES

For a complete list of this week's titles, sneak peeks, breaking news and more, visit us at **wildstorm.com**

IN STORES MAY:

THE AUTHORITY #1 Special Edition
THE AUTHORITY #22
THE AUTHORITY: THE LOST YEAR #9
DANTE'S INFERNO #6
DV8: GODS & MONSTERS #2
FREE REALMS #9
GARRISON #2
GOD OF WAR #2
SPARTA: USA #3
SUPERNATURAL: BEGINNING'S END #5
WILDCATS #23

NEXT ISSUE: FREE REALMS #10

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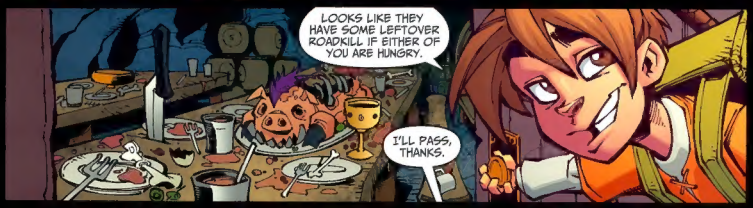
YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY. BEAUTY IS IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER.
WHATEVER.


LOOKS LIKE THEY HAVE SOME LEFTOVER ROADKILL IF EITHER OF YOU ARE HUNGRY.
I'LL PASS, THANKS.

I DON'T SUPPOSE THAT JOURNAL HAS ANY MORE CLUES ABOUT WHAT ROOM THE BOX IS IN?
WE'RE MISSING SOMETHING.
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE RIGHT CAVE?
OF COURSE I'M SURE.

WHAT'S BEHIND THAT BIG FANCY DOOR?
GORG, MY FRIEND, I BELIEVE YOU'VE EARNED A GENEROUS REWARD. REMIND ME TO DOUBLE WHATEVER I'M PAYING YOU.
YOU AREN'T PAYING HIM ANYTHING.
THINK YOU CAN OPEN IT WITHOUT THE COMBINATION?
I'LL TRY.

GGRAAHHH!
AND REMIND ME TO NEVER GET YOU ANGRY.
KA-BOOM
WHY, YES, GORG. I DO BELIEVE IT IS.
IS THAT THE BOX YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, BOSS?
NOW, WITHOUT FURTHER ADO...
WAIT, BOSS, SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT.

THANKS, GORG. I OWE YOU ONE.
WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITHOUT ME, DANE?
I COULD HAVE MADE THAT JUMP WITHOUT WINGS.
SURE YOU COULD.
WAIT...!
CLANK
CLANKETY!
CLANKETY!
CLANKETY!
CRASH
To be continued!